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GET ARTYFISHAL WITH LUA

Welcome

The days are getting longer and lighter and Spring is just around the corner! And with it, much in store from LUA!

We're calling for you to dust off your flippers and join us in creating a magnificent shoal of fish for our 'Arty-fish-al Things' exhibition! If your fins aren't already flapping, read on to find out more!

There will also be some thought-provoking debate at Café LUA over the next few months. Join us to view SAC's exhibition 'Skin Deep' on 12th March. And on 9th April, we're inviting you to share your thoughts and hear about SAC's summer programme, in a discussion with SAC Director, Gemma Okell.

We very much look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

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GET ARTY-FISH-AL WITH LUA

Homegrown: Artificial Things at Salisbury Arts Centre

3 July - 17 August 2014

Performance showcase and Preview: 2 July 2014

Fishing for your unique representation of some marginalised aspect of yourself (or something that provokes the real/natural/artificial debate), interpreted as a fish, LUA is keen to exhibit a fantasy shoal as part of 'Artificial Things'. Homegrown is Salisbury Arts Centre's annual showcase of home-grown art, created by the artists, users, participants and this year: staff and trustees.

Inspired by the glass meeting place known as the goldfish bowl (in the SAC office), and not a little unaffected by the sheer volume of water drowning the Salisbury water meadows, we're calling for you to get arty-fish-al.



Fabric fish, paper fish, collage fish - do get creative. We have some links to free patterns for knitted fish and origami fish; Kingfisher poets are pondering fishy-shaped writings and LUA committee has begun assembling a mix of found and created parts into almost

recognisable members **of the paraphyletic group of organisms (Wiki definition of fish!)**

Please let us know (contact details are on the back page) as soon as possible, if you would like to take part, or don't hesitate to get in touch, should you require assistance in participating.

An image or description of your finished work needs to be with us by 02/06/14. And the finished artwork delivered to SAC between 24-30 June. The exhibition will run until 18/08/14.

We also hope to create material for a spoken word montage as part of the performance event and are looking for contributions – **please do contact us** with your ideas, if you are interested in taking part!

Useful links to **FREE** patterns – also available on our website/ via email:

<http://www.origami-instructions.com/origami-angelfish.html>

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Theres-something-fishy-in-my-pocket/>

MORE FROM THE LUA COMMITTEE..

In our last newsletter, we introduced you to our Committee. Now, a few words from our fifth Committee Member:

ANGIE CLARK – COMMITTEE MEMBER

“I am a retired teacher, having taught in the area for over twenty years. I have enjoyed a connection to Salisbury Arts Centre since my daughters were young and used to attend a Saturday workshop. I am a member of The Kingfisher Writers' group, based at the centre and chair the committee at present.”

To read about the Committee in full, visit their designated page on our website: www.LUA.org.uk/board.

Artwork in this issue:

Front cover: 'Arty-fish-al Things' for SAC'S Homegrown Exhibition/showcase event

Page 3: Photograph of fabric pocket fish from <http://www.instructables.com/id/Theres-something-fishy-in-my-pocket/>

Page 6: Photograph by Gill Horitz, State of Play Arts – A display of personal and public artefacts

INTRODUCING WSUN

Development Outreach Worker, Richard Conlon introduces WSUN, a Wiltshire Network where disabled and elderly people can get their voices heard

It might seem strange to be introducing afresh an organisation which has been in existence for 22 years, but WSUN (The Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network) is currently stepping into new territory.

The Network has always existed to do one thing; to amplify and articulate the voices of Service Users up to Service Providers – and by 'service users' we mean people with a physical or sensory disability, a mental health problem, a learning disability or older people. We try to capture people's thoughts, feelings, views and opinions about the services they receive and we make sure their voices are heard by those who write the strategies and policies which affect us all – it is as simple and as complex as that.

As someone with an arts background, I have been brought in to see if I can undertake some of our core activity, through a process which is more creative than the traditional forums that WSUN have held for many years now. I am here to respond to people's ideas and to see if I can get projects rolling and secure money for worthwhile ideas. I am also in post to challenge the notion that we only work with older people; that just happens to be a community we offer a lot for at the moment, but we need to offer a lot across the board, to any Wiltshire adult who feels they fall within the scope of our Network. I know we don't do enough for young adults and people in their thirties, forties and fifties – those are exactly the people who need to join WSUN and start saying 'what about us?'

I am trying to start a dialogue, a creative consultation – it might be a dialogue which is iterative and incremental, but I hope it is one which takes us to exciting and challenging places, and one which leads to social change within the place we call home – again, it is a simple and as complex as that. Join in the conversation by dropping me a line, becoming a WSUN member, attending events and having your say – the stronger our membership the more accurately we represent Wiltshire. I hope you'll come forward and take part in a process which I think might lead us to somewhere new and exciting.

By Richard Conlon

Contact details:

Address: Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network, The Independent Living Centre, St. George's Road, Semington, BA14 6JQ **Tel:** 01380 872928

Email: richardconlon.wsun@btconnect.com

NEW CREATIVE DRAMA FOR EAST DORSET'S PRIEST'S HOUSE MUSEUM

Over three Saturday mornings in January, an integrated team of professional disabled and non-disabled artists from Dorset Theatre Companies State of Play Arts (Tony Horitz and Persuasion Arts (Tam Gilbert and Paul Wilshaw) worked with a small group of disabled participants, on a new HLF-funded project, gathering stories from personal artefacts and the Museum's collection. LUA Committee member Hayley Davies joined the group for the final session

One by one, our group of curators trudged in out of the wind and rain and took their places expectantly in the museum's Ironmonger's shop. The air was an excited one; a new year, a new partnership; some familiar faces, some fresh. Three sessions together and so much to explore!

The aim of the project was to introduce more disabled people to Priest's House Museum and encourage them to interact with the rooms and their artefacts; to feel comfortable about exploring and working in an environment, which, for many was unknown territory. As we know, museums can be daunting places for some disabled people, who may, for a variety of reasons, have trouble accessing the information, let alone physically navigating their way around. With the museum closed to the public for the duration of our sessions, ropes were discarded and our group were able to roam the ground floor, handling objects which caught their eye, and if the mood took them, interacting with the mannequins!



As well as creating powerful and evocative stories through drama, the group were treated to a tour of the museum and the stores where they were fascinated by the tales Curator Emma Ayling, told. Mid-way through the course we were given the opportunity to toast crumpets on the fire in the kitchen.

For our final session, we created a site-specific story in the Museum, where, inspired by their personal

objects, each group chose a space that best suited their placing, and devised mini-stories. One participant, LUA's Hayley Davies commented later, "Because we were able to use the museum's rooms and objects, it added a different dimension to our stories. Also we learnt and became part of the museum's history."

The drama workshops formed the early stages of a longer-term project, where State of Play and Persuasion Arts plan to develop a professional play, celebrating disabled people's lives in Dorset, to be produced at the museum later in the year. It is hoped that that we can also find funding for the group to meet regularly to continue their exploration of the museum.

By Tam Gilbert

OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS

Why not go along to one of these events:

Creative Gathering Two: Reflections on Cultural Engagement 4-8pm – 13th March, Wiltshire Museum, 41 Long Street, Devises

Join the discussions at to the second Creative Gathering in Wiltshire, hosted by the Royal Society of Arts in partnership with the Community Campus Programme .The event will explore issues of cultural engagement and participation. What does this mean? How do we engage? Who and what are we engaging with? We will be discussing these questions both within the context of the Campus Programme and more widely, across our working practices.

For further information, or to book visit

<http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com/2014/02/07/creative-gathering-2-reflections-on-cultural-engagement/> or email Natalie Remington at natalie.remington.design@gmail.com.

Networking: Community area partnerships and opportunities

WfCAP are using lots of new ways to share information and celebrate what's being achieved locally. Please check out the links below and follow, like & connect with us! [Laura's Blog](#) - an informal way of sharing the news from Wiltshire's strategic meetings. [Dawn's Dialogue](#) – the monthly e-bulletin includes funding, community area partnerships (CAP) news and projects. Many CAPs have arts and culture sub groups. Plus you can view community videos & photos and keep in touch via: [You Tube](#); [Flickr](#); Twitter: [Dawn](#) and [Laura](#); [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#). For more information on what CAPs have been achieving visit our [website](#) or please get in touch laura.pictor@wfcap.org

Arts & Craft's activities for St Georges Day

Salisbury City Council are hosting a St Georges Day event in the Guildhall, Market Square and Guildhall Square on Sunday 27 April. The event will be a family fun day providing workshops, displays and activities.

SCC are seeking proposals from suitably qualified and experienced organisations / individuals from Salisbury and the surrounding area to provide a free drop- in participatory art and craft workshop or activity.

To download an application form, please visit

<http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com/2014/02/04/opportunity-art-craft-workshop-activities-for-st-georges-day/>

Visit Salisbury Arts Centre to see:

Skin Deep

Salisbury Arts Centre

27/2/14 – 6/4/2014. FREE

'Skin Deep' brings together four contemporary artists whose painted surfaces play tricks with appearance and reality.

Artists: Harriet White, Heather Wallace, Clare Chapman & Mike Newton.

Join us at Café LUA on 12 March at 2pm to view and share thoughts.

See more at: <http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/Event.aspx?EventID=906>.

Running on Empty

Salisbury Arts Centre

**Wed, 19 March 2014, 8:00 PM - 9:05 PM £12 / £10 concessions
(Members: £11 / £9)**

Probe presents a beautiful fusion of dance, text and song that takes you on a surreal ride through dreams, fears and memory.

'Running on Empty' brings together the creative talents of director Jo McInnes (Royal Court), writer Brad Birch (Soho Theatre, Royal Court), choreographer Charlie Morrissey (Siobhan Davies), and performers Greig Cooke, Antonia Grove and composer Scott Smith.

It's a story of running wild, running away, running out of time and that extraordinary resilience that keeps us running... on empty.

There will be a post-show chat following the performance.

For more details and to watch a preview, visit

<http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/Event.aspx?EventID=932#sthash.oEu0JT77.dpuf>.

REMINDERS FOR YOUR DIARY:

Café LUA

March.....12th 2014
April12th 2014
May14th 2014

Café LUA takes place every second Wednesday of the month (except August) at Salisbury Arts Centre from 14.00 to 16.00. We usually meet in the café area, but specific projects can mean we are in one of the work spaces, do ask at the Box Office if you are in any doubt.

Café LUA is a social get together for artists with disabilities – an informal, open space for inspiration and discussion. However you are involved with or interested in the arts, do come along and meet us, find out about us, and about Disability Arts. We'd love to meet you and hear more about your arts practice or interests.

Each month, as well as open discussion and networking, we focus on a particular topic or issue.

Wednesday 12th March

Join us at SAC for the exhibition 'Skin Deep' bringing together four contemporary artists whose painted surfaces, play tricks with appearance and reality. For further details please see

<http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/Event.aspx?EventID=906>

Wednesday 9th April

Meet Gemma Okell, SAC Director

LUA and Salisbury Arts Centre warmly invite everyone interested in the arts to an informal presentation and discussion. Thus is an opportunity to find out more about the Art Centre's summer programme and offer thoughts on what you would like to see and get involved with. From issues around access to what's on – come armed with a question, or just see what unfolds. We all very much look forward to meeting, and hearing from you!

Wednesday 14th May

Join us in the café to get inspiration and guidance on preparing your fishes/spoken words for 'Arty-fish-al Things.' Bring your materials and get creative in a fun and supportive environment!

At the heart of LinkUpArts:



For more information about the career artists
in LUAN: linkupartistsnetwork@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER FORMATS

You can receive this Newsletter in print form,
it is **available in bigger type** and an audio cassette. You can
also download it from salisburyartscentre.co.uk -> Resident Companies
->LinkUpArts



creative direction
Gini

gini@linkuparts.org.uk

Administration & Fundraising Assistant
Tam Gilbert

admin@linkuparts.org.uk

LinkUpArts, Salisbury Arts Centre,
Bedwin Street, Salisbury, SP1 3UT
Arts Centre Enquiries: 01722 343 020

LinkUpArts and Salisbury Arts Centre work together for the benefit of both organisations. LUA advises and consults with Salisbury Arts Centre on its Disability Arts programming and helps to promote the events. Salisbury Arts Centre gives LUA its home and provides marketing and administrative support. LUA is a strategic creative partner in Salisbury Arts Centre's Creative Family.

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